

Miami-Dade Police Department

**Community Policing,
Crime Prevention,
& Juvenile Programs
Annual Evaluation**

2015



C.A.L.E.A. S t a n d a r d s

2016 Edition

2015

MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Community Policing, Crime Prevention, & Juvenile Programs Annual Evaluation

The attached report is prepared every year in accordance with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) standard 45.1.1c.

To adhere to CALEA standards 11.4.1 and 45.1.1c, this report will be published annually in an effort to standardize the report and ensure a yearly evaluation of the programs.

The attached report evaluates all of the community policing, crime prevention, and juvenile programs that were conducted by the Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) during 2015.

The MDPD establishes crime prevention programs with specific policies, goals, and objectives by which their commitment can be realized. Some of these programs are developed based on data indicating the types of crimes that pose the greatest threat to the community and where (geographically) criminal activity is most prevalent. Programs are evaluated to determine whether they have been effective in achieving present goals.

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BEHAVIORAL DETECTION TRAINING

DESCRIPTION:

Trained Airport District officers provide Behavioral Detection Training to all civilian personnel who are obtaining their Security Identification Display Area (SIDA) card status within the Miami-Dade Aviation Department (MDAD). These training classes are conducted on Mondays and Wednesdays of each week prior to any civilian obtaining their SIDA cards. Classes are provided in English and Spanish within a four hour block and approximately 60 people are trained on a weekly basis. The curriculum was developed by New Age Security Solutions, an Israeli company, and was based on experiences in Israel. The training provides the tools to recognize suspicious and inappropriate behavior in an Airport environment. The result of this training is to help the civilian population who labor at Miami International Airport (MIA) deter terrorist and criminal activities.

EVALUATION:

The MDAD is a strong supporter of this training and it has proven to be a positive tool in combating criminal activities within MIA property. This training has been successful and will be continued.

USER:

Airport District

CAREER DAY/OFFICER FRIENDLY PRESENTATION

DESCRIPTION:

The Northwest District Community Service Squad (CSS) conducts Career Day and Officer Friendly Presentations at Northwest District elementary and middle schools in the District. These presentations give children an opportunity to ask questions regarding police calls and procedures. It serves as an excellent way of building a positive interaction with law enforcement.

The CSS also demonstrated various police equipment for the children.

EVALUATION:

This program provides positive interaction with children and the police. It gives the children a greater understanding of how and why police officers take certain action(s) and answers any questions they might have regarding rules, regulations and procedures.

USER:

Northwest District

CELEBRATING SAFER COMMUNITIES

DESCRIPTION:

Celebrating Safer Communities is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts; strengthen neighborhood morale and police/community relations; and send a message to criminals everywhere, letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and are fighting back. Events are held in October for Crime Prevention month as well as other outreach efforts throughout the year.

EVALUATION:

This is a popular and effective program. It is a valuable public relations tool for the Department. It should be held during evening hours in order to better accommodate targeted communities and improve attendance.

USER:

District Stations and Town of Cutler Bay

CHRISTMAS AT 94th AERO SQUADRON

DESCRIPTION:

The Midwest District Neighborhood Resource Unit (NRU), its Explorer Post, and the 94th Aero Squadron coordinate this annual Christmas luncheon. The objective is to provide toys for underprivileged children and reward them for academic or behavioral improvement. Generally, 70 children from two local elementary schools are chosen to participate in this event. The children eat lunch with Santa, are given a toy of their choice, and enjoy a fun-filled Christmas program.

EVALUATION:

Christmas at the 94th Aero Squadron continues to be a successful program and is well received by school administrators, faculty, parents, and students. The program forms partnerships with area schools and promotes a positive rapport with children in the community. The goal is to include more participants next year.

USER:

Midwest District

CHRISTMAS TOY DRIVES

DESCRIPTION:

MDPD district stations partner with various community agencies annually to provide toys to disadvantaged children during the holiday season. They target needy children with the aim of adding a little “cheer” to the Christmas holidays. This spirit of giving is further extended as police officers and community groups have a means to “give back” to the communities they serve. Most of the children targeted are a result of police officer interactions throughout Miami-Dade County (MDC) while on patrol, as well as requests from teachers, clergy, and social workers.

In the eyes of the children and their families, police officers are now seen as more than just a law enforcement officer. The program fosters immediate police/community relations and gives police officers an opportunity to initiate constructive dialogues between youth, parents, and community volunteers which serves as a foundation for future growth and development.

EVALUATION:

This widespread program was well received by community members as it affords children holiday gifts and fun not normally provided. It also encourages a unique bond with law enforcement personnel.

USER:

District Stations, Towns of Cutler Bay and Miami Lakes

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DESCRIPTION:

Citizens' Advisory Committees (CACs) were formed in each district after the 1980 civil disorders. Its specific purpose, then and now, is to facilitate police/citizen communication and enhance police/community relations.

Each District CAC will elect members in good standing to serve as Chairperson and Co-Chairperson. They meet monthly at each district with MDPD command staff to discuss areas of community interest. Committee members represent all segments of the community and share information and concerns on a variety of community-related issues. They also provide feedback on the level of police services provided in their locality. Concerns discussed range from criminal offenses to zoning matters. Each area of concern is evaluated, acted upon, and the appropriate district personnel then take follow-up action.

EVALUATION:

The CACs continue to serve as an important communication link between the police and the various communities within each district. Many of MDPD's Citizen's Police Academy graduates are members of the CACs. This has increased citizens' awareness of the Department's function throughout the districts. There are no recommendations for changes at this time.

USER:

District Stations

CITIZENS' CRIME WATCH

DESCRIPTION:

This program has been in place for more than 40 years and it is sponsored by Citizens' Crime Watch (CCW) of MDC in cooperation with MDPD. The program creates an alliance between citizens and the police to address crime in the community. Through CCW, community members are educated in areas such as personal protection, home security, and crime reporting.

EVALUATION:

The CCW continues to create alliances between citizens and the police to address crime in the community. During these meetings, the participants have been taught techniques to reduce the risk of being victimized at home, in their vehicles and in public places. It also trains residents the importance of recognizing suspicious activities; evaluate them; and how to properly report them. This program empowers citizens to work together with law enforcement to fight crime in their community.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinates this program with participation from District Stations, Towns of Cutler Bay, Miami Lakes, and the Village of Palmetto Bay

CITIZEN'S POLICE ACADEMY

DESCRIPTION:

The Citizen's Police Academy (CPA) was created in 1993 to offer civilians with civic interests an exposure to the "police experience." Movies and television shows over the years have created an impossible image for professional police officers to live up to; resulting in citizens with unrealistic expectations. The CPA hopes to combat that type of perception. The 14-week evening program enables participants to better understand police training, procedures, and philosophy.

The CPA is held at the Department's Fred Taylor Headquarters Building one night per-week from 6:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. The students are taught classes on topics such as law; firearms and use of force; stress management; domestic violence; and patrol procedures, to name a few. Each student is required to participate in an eight-hour riding assignment during the course. Upon completion, the student experiences a Basic Law Enforcement style graduation, and receives a diploma/plaque.

EVALUATION:

The CPA has been extremely successful in educating citizens and, in most cases, transforms negative attitudes into ones of appreciation and understanding. Graduates continue to dispel negative or false perceptions by speaking out at civic meetings within their own neighborhoods about the true nature of law enforcement. The key to its success is the non-patronizing approach that the program coordinators and instructors take in addressing each class. By showing real life ups and downs of police work, participants realize and appreciate they are getting the "real thing." To date, more than 2,715 people have completed the program. The program is offered at least once a year.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

CITIZENS' VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Citizens' Volunteer Program (CVP) was designed to give interested citizens an opportunity to perform volunteer duties for different entities within the Department. These duties may include filing, answering phones, distributing mail, and other duties of a non-classified nature at the discretion of the individual entity. The number of volunteers varies each month as people enter or leave the program.

Through exposure of daily police activities, the volunteer develops a realistic perspective of the law enforcement system and a positive regard for the police agency and its personnel.

EVALUATION:

The CVP has been of great value in that it permits area residents to work in a police environment, exposing them to the daily activities of the profession while performing a service to the Department and the community. The program provides added assistance to departmental entities with a multitude of clerical administrative functions.

USER:

Personnel Management Bureau (PMB)

COFFEE WITH A COP

DESCRIPTION:

The Northside District Major has initiated a monthly community meet and greet, formally named “Coffee with a Cop,” where the District Major goes out and meets with residents and/or business representatives in an informal setting, providing meeting participants with coffee and snacks as an “ice breaker.” The objective is to talk with individuals about concerns they may have and to enlist their support and cooperation in the problem-solving process.

EVALUATION:

This disarming communicative approach has enhanced police/community relations and has expanded inter-group discussions.

USER:

Northside District

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING, PRACTICES & STRATEGIES

DESCRIPTION:

The Community-Oriented Policing, Practices & Strategies (COPPS) program employs specially trained officers who conduct community-oriented policing to serve the varied communities within MDC. COPPS officers' responsibilities include proactive patrol of their assigned neighborhoods, either by vehicle, bicycle, or foot patrol; response to calls for service including traffic enforcement, crowd control, and surveillance details; attendance at community meetings and interaction with local residents to gather information regarding community concerns and issues; and referrals of perceived problems within the neighborhoods to appropriate governmental or private agencies.

The COPPS program works to increase community cooperation with law enforcement, address community concerns more efficiently, and create visible police presence to deter crime and resolve quality of life issues that affect the community. Specialized enforcement techniques such as truancy sweeps and school zone radar enforcement details help keep youth safe. Crime Watch meetings along with security surveys and burglary prevention programs allow COPPS officers to meet with community members and help improve their quality of life.

EVALUATION:

The COPPS program continues to be successful in fostering positive communication between police officers and citizens, and resolving community concerns and issues.

USER:

West, Intracoastal, Kendall, Midwest, Northside and South Districts, and Town of Cutler Bay

COMMUNITY SERVICE SQUAD

DESCRIPTION:

CSS have been created in certain police districts to address community issues. Duties of the CSS include traffic enforcement, high-visibility patrols in specific areas of concern, and crowd control. The CSS officers conduct police officer familiarization and crime prevention presentations for citizen groups and schools; serve as co-advisors for the district's Police Explorer Post; and support programs such as Drug Abuse and Resistance Education, "Students Together Against Negative Decisions (STAND)," Stranger Danger, Anti-bullying, Driver Safety, and Gun Security presentations.

CSS officers partner with residents, business owners, and school personnel to develop effective methods of crime prevention. Crime Watch programs create a forum for citizens and law enforcement to exchange information for the betterment of the community. Quality of life issues such as litter and abandoned vehicles; building condition, structural damage, and pollution are addressed with the assistance of the Regulatory and Economic Resources Department.

EVALUATION:

The implementation of the CSS is well-received throughout the communities they serve. CSS officers seek to reduce fear of crime, solve community issues, and increase citizens' sense of personal safety. The success of the CSS program is in part due to the partnerships that have evolved among residents, local businesses, and law enforcement. As a result, residents continue to benefit from the improved quality of life they experience in their community.

USER:

Northside and Northwest District

CRIME PREVENTION DISPLAY VEHICLE

DESCRIPTION:

The Public Information & Education Bureau utilizes a Crime Prevention Display Vehicle (CPDV) to enhance community education concerning police services. This 40-foot bus/coach type vehicle houses interactive crime prevention displays that deliver pertinent information to citizens. Two touch screen kiosks, along with four 19" televisions with DVD/VCR units, feature facts and descriptions of departmental programs, and various topics related to crime prevention and safety practices.

The objective of the CPDV is to provide citizens with information on the consequences of drinking and driving, drug awareness, crime prevention tools, and community-based programs offered by the Department. The display vehicle also contains specific information on homeland security, alarm systems, security locks, and lighting tips.

EVALUATION:

During 2015, the CPDV was showcased at 68 community events throughout MDC. More than 45,050 citizens had the opportunity to walk through this vehicle and learn about their police department.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION

DESCRIPTION:

The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program has been taught by police officers since 1988 and reaches approximately 7,500 children per year in MDC. This substance abuse and violence prevention program gives kids the skills they need to avoid involvement in drugs, gangs, and violence.

MDPD D.A.R.E. officers teach this program that gives children the skills needed to recognize and resist the subtle pressures that cause them to experiment with drugs or become involved in gangs or violent activities. D.A.R.E. officers facilitate discussion groups, role-playing sessions, and work assignments. The group dynamic concept encourages kids to work together on projects and to think for themselves to make good life choices.

The 5th grade curriculum, wherein the officer teaches anti-drug, gang, and violence techniques, as well as peer pressure awareness, bullying, and self-worth, is the foundation of the D.A.R.E. program. This provides students with the skills they will need as young adults to avoid gang violence and to resist the temptations of drug abuse.

EVALUATION:

The D.A.R.E. program is a promising strategy that helps teachers and administrators cope with changing federal substance abuse prevention program requirements and school violence issues. It is proving to be a great tool in establishing positive relationships between students and law enforcement, teachers, parents, and other community leaders. Most importantly, it provides the students an opportunity to learn skills needed to succeed in life. The curriculum was updated in 2012 to address the most current trends in drug use and bullying.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinates this program with participation from South, West, Midwest, Northwest, and Northside Districts

D.A.R.E. VEHICLE

DESCRIPTION:

The D.A.R.E. vehicle is a 2006 Ford Mustang that has been customized to augment the D.A.R.E. program. The objective of this positive public relations vehicle is to emphasize the mission of the program which is to, "Say No to Drugs."

The program reaches many groups, but specifically targets 5th grade students. The D.A.R.E. vehicle is most attractive in its presentation of logo decals and the D.A.R.E. lion graphic which is recognized by all D.A.R.E. program graduates.

EVALUATION:

The D.A.R.E. vehicle promotes the D.A.R.E. program and provides students a visual reminder of how fun learning skills needed to succeed in life can be.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE MOBILE EDUCATIONAL CENTER

DESCRIPTION:

The Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Mobile Educational Center was developed in MDC by the MDPD. The focus was aimed at creating an educational program that would make the public aware that drinking and driving is not a safe behavior. The educational center involves hands-on participation with state-of-the-art instruments. Targeted areas include high and middle schools along with community and civic events.

The MDPD's DUI Mobile Educational Center is a 60-foot tractor-trailer that transforms into a state-of-the-art interactive, mini-museum which features DUI prevention information. A powerful sound system draws viewers inside. Visitors can see an exhibit of alcohol-testing instruments. Three TV monitors show videotaped accounts of DUI crashes from the MDC area, or special messages that schools or businesses supply. There are three touch screen monitors that depict crash statistics, the effects and hazards of both drugs and alcohol, and interactive knowledge assessments regarding alcohol use. To simulate the physical impairment resulting from excessive alcohol use, viewers can "walk the line" wearing the Fatal Vision Goggles. This virtual-reality exercise mimics the kinds of spastic movement and lack of physical coordination experienced when impaired.

EVALUATION:

This program began on February 10, 1998. Since that date more than 888,000 people have toured the custom built trailer and have gained important knowledge that drinking and driving is not a safe behavior.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

EMERGENCY COMMERCIAL IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Emergency Commercial Identification Program (E-CIP) was developed and has been active in the Village of Palmetto Bay for over three years. The program consists of contacting all of the commercial businesses located within the Village, and obtaining and verifying the entire business' emergency contact information. This information is then maintained in a secure data base, available to the officers on the road, in order to contact the owners in case of an emergency that might occur after business hours. The participating businesses are identified by an E-CIP decal placed at a predetermined spot at location which allows officers to recognize the business information. The program also provides a bridge between the local business and the officers that patrol the areas.

EVALUATION:

In 2014, over 190 businesses participated in the program. Grant funds for this program came from the Village of Palmetto Bay and the Department of Justice.

USER:

Village of Palmetto Bay

GANG DETECTIVES

DESCRIPTION:

District gang detectives are responsible for maintaining intelligence files on criminal street gangs, their members, and associates within district boundaries. The Gang Squad is assigned to the General Investigations Unit (GIU) and their activities are coordinated through the GIU Commander. The gang detectives act as liaisons between rival gangs in an attempt to curtail any violence that may occur over disputes or differences of opinion. The gang detectives maintain a professional rapport with gang members, which allows him/her to frequently quell problems before they occur and to extract needed information. The gang detectives maintain close contact with other departmental entities, as well as outside agencies. The gang detectives are also liaison with the Homicide Street-Violent Task Force (HSVTF), which coordinate large-scale violent crimes and gang investigations utilizing local, state, and federal agencies. Members of the HSVTF have weekly meetings and also participate in these investigations and disseminate gang intelligence throughout the law enforcement community.

EVALUATION:

District gang detectives' knowledge of and rapport with these gang members have proven to be a valuable intelligence asset to the Department. Potential problems and gang-related crimes have been thwarted before they could materialize due to the intelligence gathered by the detective. There are no recommended changes to this position at this time.

USER:

West, Intracoastal, Kendall, Northside, Northwest, and South Districts

GRINCHBUSTERS HOLIDAY CRIME DETAIL

DESCRIPTION:

Grinchbusters Holiday Crime Detail is designed to address criminal activity in shopping areas during the holiday season. Crimes of opportunity such as robberies, thefts, and auto thefts are the primary focus of the operation. A combination of specialized units including NRU, GIU, and uniform officers are utilized for surveillance, high-visibility patrols throughout the shopping centers, and roving patrols in areas surrounding the shopping areas. The visual presence of marked police vehicles creates a deterrent to crime. The program usually runs five weeks each year but is extended if necessary.

EVALUATION:

The high-visibility patrols and plain clothes covert operations in each district's and town's commercial establishments greatly enhances the safety and well-being of local residents who patronize those businesses.

USER:

District Stations, Towns of Cutler Bay, Miami Lakes, and Village of Palmetto Bay

GUN BOUNTY PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The program was instituted on May 24, 2007, in partnership with local law enforcement and Miami-Dade Crime Stoppers. It is aimed at deterring the illegal possession and use of guns in MDC. Anyone who reports a person who is illegally possessing or illegally using a firearm is eligible for a \$1,000 reward if the subject is arrested and a gun is seized. On a weekly basis, marketing materials are disseminated throughout MDC to increase community awareness.

EVALUATION:

From June 1, 2007, through January 31, 2016, a total of 853 guns were removed from the streets of MDC and 548 arrests were made. A total of \$548,000 has been paid in rewards. Other items recovered as a result of the Gun Bounty program include: narcotics valued at \$6,934.751, U.S. currency amounting to \$306,942, 122 stolen firearms, 7 stolen vehicles valued at \$112,000, in addition 11 bullet resistant vests, 1 live hand grenade, 1 pipe bomb, 3 police badges, a Taser, and a radar gun.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

HAULOVER PARK SUMMER SAFETY INITIATIVE

DESCRIPTION:

During late spring and summer, large crowds descend on Haulover Park for boating, picnicking, sports recreation, swimming and sunbathing. Crowds swell even larger for the summer holidays of Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day. Haulover Park has a large nude beach area which creates additional challenges for law enforcement.

EVALUATION:

The Intracoastal District deploys a contingent of personnel from specialized units from within the District to meet this demand for police services. Specialized equipment such as all-terrain vehicles, bicycles and personal watercraft are utilized for patrol. Plainclothes officers are also utilized for criminal activity, such as vehicle burglaries and lewd and lascivious activities.

USER:

Intracoastal District

HOLIDAY INITIATIVE ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

DESCRIPTION:

The Airport District's mission is to provide police services to the citizens of MDC. However, District responsibilities also include the protection and security of the many tourists visiting South Florida and traveling through the MIA, Miami Intermodal Center (MIC), and the Airport Link Metrorail Station.

During the holiday season (November-January), the Holiday Initiative Enforcement Detail provides increased staffing which allows for intensified police presence in the form of traffic enforcement, security checkpoints, high-visibility vehicle patrol, foot patrol, and the use of undercover personnel. As a result, tourists and citizens traveling through MIA have a heightened sense of security and always have direct access to a police officer should they need assistance. In cooperation with MDPD, this unique Detail is funded by the MDAD.

EVALUATION:

This Detail has had a significant impact on crime during the holiday season and has created a safer environment for visitors and citizens alike. The increased presence of police personnel has also allowed for more citizen contacts. This is an excellent public relations initiative and a crime suppression plan.

USER:

Airport District

HOMICIDE STREET VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

DESCRIPTION:

The Homicide Street Violence Task Force (HSVTF) was conceived as an effort to share intelligence and strategically address escalating levels of street violence, particularly murders, occurring in MDC. This multi-pronged approach raises homicide clearance rates by utilizing the most effective means of gathering intelligence, including the use of confidential informants and sources, and cultivates the cooperation of reluctant witnesses and enhances community participation.

The HSVTF has dedicated teams in the northern and southern communities within MDC to address specific areas, which have traditionally been impacted by violent crimes such as: murder, shooting incident, narcotics trafficking, and aggravated battery.

The HSVTF also has a Community Outreach Section (COS), which is dedicated to building community relationships with the local clergy, community stakeholders, and school districts. The COS has demonstrated a unique ability to forge real-time intelligence with the aforementioned community tiers in order to enhance and further criminal investigations. The COS works hand-in-hand with homicide investigators and the victim/witness coordinator, which has resulted in investigators being intricately involved in working with residents, business owners, and apartment complex managers in areas that have been plagued by violent crime.

EVALUATION:

The HSVTF bridges communication gaps between various MDPD units and outside law enforcement agencies in an effort to thwart a continuing cycle of violence. The HSVTF model gains the trust and cooperation of members of the community through results and community outreach efforts. Since its inception, the HSVTF has been successful, which is evidenced by the following statistical data:

- The clearance rate for homicides occurring in MDC was 42% in 2015
- Since its inception, the HSVTF has arrested 40 of the 55 most violent offenders on charges ranging from murder, attempted murder, narcotics trafficking, firearms possession, and witness tampering.
- The HSVTF has arrested a total of 125 individuals with violent criminal pasts and recovered 127 firearms.
- HSVTF detectives have authored 84 search warrants and seized 1,806 grams of marijuana, 4.7 kilos of cocaine, and \$58,435 in U.S. currency.

USER:

Homicide Bureau, Robbery Bureau, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Federal Bureau of Investigations, City of Miami Police Department, and MDPD policing districts

INTRACOASTAL DISTRICT – NARCOTICS TEAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Intracoastal District's Narcotics Team (INT) was established in order to address narcotics activity and narcotics related crimes within the ID. The INT is comprised of both, uniform and non-uniform personnel. INT conducts bi-monthly operations in various "hot spots" throughout the ID, where a nexus between narcotics activity and criminal activity has been identified.

EVALUTION:

Through these collaborative operations, the Intracoastal District has seen a notable reduction in targeted crimes within the aforementioned targeted areas.

USER:

Intracoastal District

JOIN A TEAM, NOT A GANG

DESCRIPTION:

This program was initiated in 1987, in the Kendall District and has expanded countywide. It is a year-round gang prevention program, which primarily targets elementary school children. Two police officers conduct gang presentations and provide reliable and up-to-date information on gang activities and the dangers of joining a gang. The program encourages children to join a team as an alternative to negative behavior. Police officers provide coaching and transportation for the children who participate.

Students are provided with field trips to the University of Miami (UM) and Florida International University (FIU) football and basketball games. The "Most Improved Student" component of the program allows at-risk students to attend special practices and meet the coaches and athletes. Through a series of sporting events and celebrity autograph sessions, participating youths are afforded the opportunity to meet positive role models. These role models address the negative aspects of gang membership while advocating membership with a team through sports activities.

This program is a collaborative effort between the MDPD, Miami-Dade Police Athletic League (PAL), UM, and FIU. Funding for the program is provided through Law Enforcement Trust Fund monies and corporate donations.

EVALUATION:

During 2015, approximately 10,000 students were impacted as a direct result of this program, which offers alternatives to gangs and violence. The program has been recognized for its innovation in providing classroom presentations and after-school activities. It serves as a model for other law enforcement agencies throughout the state of Florida, and the nation as a successful gang prevention program.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinates this program with full support from Northside and South Districts

JOINT ROUNDTABLE ON YOUTH SAFETY

DESCRIPTION:

In establishing the Joint Roundtable on Youth Safety (JRYS), MDC Mayor Carlos A. Gimenez and MDCPS Superintendent Alberto M. Carvalho joined community leaders across the County to ensure that the MDC community came together for the long haul to develop a safe envelope around our schools and other public places where children gather. As a part of its commitment to the JRYS, MDPD initiated its Youth Safety Initiative on March 18, 2013.

EVALUATION:

The predominant areas this initiative focuses on include public, charter, and private schools; parks; and bus routes/stops within our jurisdictional areas of responsibility. The Youth Safety Initiative continues to ensure a safe and secure environment for the youth in our community to learn and grow.

USER:

Each MDPD police district and contracted municipal policing unit participates in the initiative along with the following entities: Public Information & Education Bureau, Special Patrol, Special Victims, and Warrants Bureaus. The initiative is coordinated by the Strategic Planning and Development Section.

JUVENILE CURFEW ENFORCEMENT

DESCRIPTION:

Enacted in 1996, Juvenile Curfew Enforcement is aimed at protecting juveniles from crime as well as reducing juvenile crime. The ordinance makes it unlawful for any person under the age of 17 to linger, stay, congregate, move about, wander, or stroll in any public or semi-public place in MDC, either on foot or in or upon any conveyance or vehicle being driven or parked thereon, during curfew hours. The curfew hours are Sunday through Thursday evenings from 11:00 p.m., until 6:00 a.m., the following morning; and Friday and Saturday evenings from 12:00 midnight, until 6:00 a.m., the following morning.

Throughout the program, a record is kept of juveniles who do not comply with the ordinance. When juveniles are stopped during curfew hours they must be released to a parent or adult guardian, or they may be transported to their residence or other appropriate location. If a juvenile is cited three or more times for not complying with the ordinance, a petition for dependency may be filed in juvenile court. The parent or legal guardian of the juvenile will receive a notice to appear and may be punished by a fine of up to \$500.

EVALUATION:

The ordinance is beneficial and has had a positive impact on reducing juvenile crime. Informational brochures and posters have been printed in English, Spanish, and Creole and distributed to keep the community informed about the ordinance.

USER:

District Stations, Towns of Cutler Bay, Miami Lakes and Village of Palmetto Bay

MAJOR'S COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

MDPD district stations have implemented a Major's Community Outreach Program, where MDPD command staff, accompanied by NRU officers and staff from associated governmental agencies, Florida Department of Children and Families, and the State Attorney's Office walk the neighborhoods. Personnel are divided into teams of three to four officers and representatives from governmental agencies. These teams go door-to-door, introducing command staff to the citizens in hopes of establishing lines of communication and addressing community concerns. The concerns are referred immediately to the appropriate agency and or departmental entity.

This initiative has been overwhelmingly embraced by the community and has resulted in considerable intelligence gathering regarding criminal activity. The addressing of safety and quality of life issues also provides valuable feedback. Two outreaches are conducted per month which encompass a residential community and a commercial complex.

EVALUATION:

The Major's Community Outreach Program is a permanent monthly event for all districts. During each Community Outreach event, district personnel make personal contact with an average of 300 residents within their locality. As the program continues to progress, district personnel have implemented additional components to include the distribution of flyers concerning crime prevention tips, Gun Bounty information, Halloween safety, holiday shopping safety, and Crime Stoppers tips. The staff will continue to distribute important and useful information as it applies to the community.

USER:

District Stations and Town of Cutler Bay

NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE UNIT

DESCRIPTION:

Each district has an NRU to address specific community needs and requirements. Communication is the key between police and the community to obtain valuable information regarding crime trends and particular community concerns. Numerous initiatives are in place which allows NRU officers to establish community partnerships that improve the quality of life for local residents. Officers blend traditional policing methods with problem solving techniques to address community concerns and provide crime prevention initiatives. Examples include proactive patrol measures in targeted problem areas which are identified by citizens and MDPD command staff; enforcement measures that address violent crimes, drug trafficking, burglary, and theft issues in high-crime neighborhoods; and security concerns for all community members.

Unique crime fighting measures utilizing All Terrain Vehicles, Segway transporters, personal watercraft, and specialized motor vehicles are implemented according to the geographic location of the operation. During the holiday season, officers provide high-visibility patrol and enforcement procedures to deter crimes of opportunity in areas such as malls, shopping centers, and parking lots.

District NRU officers implement and participate in numerous ventures according to specific community needs. These include: holiday food/toy drives and special donations; security surveys and crime prevention demonstrations; truancy enforcement and youth crime deterrent measures; participation in CCW and civic groups; youth and elderly safety programs; nuisance abatement programs; and actions which improve the quality of life for residents.

EVALUATION:

The district NRUs are essential operational components that provide invaluable services and resources to the community. Through directed patrols, traffic details, crime fighting and prevention initiatives, special events and activities, NRU specialized operations help reduce crime and improve the quality of life throughout the community.

USER:

District Stations and Town of Cutler Bay and Town of Miami Lakes

NUISANCE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The purpose of the MDC's Nuisance Abatement Program (NAP) is to abate or eliminate public nuisances in unincorporated MDC by encouraging property and business owners to take actions to prevent criminal activities that too frequently occur on their properties.

The Nuisance Abatement Board ("the Board") began meeting in January 1993 and serves as a quasi-judicial hearing board to review cases within its jurisdiction (unincorporated MDC) pursuant to the Nuisance Abatement Ordinance. The MDPD's Nuisance Abatement Unit (NAU) and the Board investigate business and residential properties where there are three or more reports of criminal activity relating to the following: unlawful sale, delivery, or possession of controlled substances; gang activity; prostitution; gambling; lewd or lascivious activity; illegal sale or consumption of alcoholic beverages; or other related crimes which constitute a danger to the public health, safety, and welfare within a 12-month period.

The program provides a tool and forum for citizens, police officers, and employees to report public nuisances and for any interested parties to be heard by the Board including property owners, business operators, and neighbors. This approach often succeeds in the abatement of reported nuisances without the need for a formal hearing. In the last 23 years, approximately 1,450 citizens, police officers, and County employees have attended Board meetings. To date, more than 1,670 properties have been investigated as possible public nuisance properties.

EVALUATION:

Since January 1, 2015, more than 32 new properties were reported to the NAU for investigation, and more than 170 properties previously reported were reviewed to see if further action was needed, to monitor continuing actions, or to close the case on the property. During 6 meetings, the Board conducted approximately 50 hearings/status reports on 17 new properties and other properties previously considered. During this time, the Board declared two properties a public nuisance and reviewed the abatement actions of others previously declared nuisances. The Board also approved agreements where business and property owners presented detailed plans to abate nuisance activity in lieu of the property being declared a public nuisance. These properties will be monitored to assure compliance.

Since the program's inception, the NAU has sent formal notification letters to the owners of more than 301 properties where evidence was sufficient to show that the property met the minimum criteria for Board review. Board hearings were held for 245 of the properties and 81 of those properties were declared to be public nuisances. Properties addressed by the program include drug houses, businesses, markets, adult book and video stores, adult entertainment businesses, apartment complexes, bars, and liquor stores. Also, MDPD investigators, including members of the Narcotics Bureau, proactively work to prevent further criminal activities.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT PROGRAM

(continuation)

In addition to investigating properties associated with criminal activity, they have sent letters to more than 493 property owners requesting them to take appropriate action to prevent criminal activity and public nuisances. As a result, many property owners do take corrective actions thereby eliminating the need for further investigation by the NAU and review by the Board.

EVALUATION:

The Board has ordered that the owners of properties declared public nuisances to pay costs totaling more than \$251,996 to MDC. Approximately \$136,855 has been collected.

The NAP continues to be a highly successful tool and is an integral part of the Department's crime prevention programs. Officers use the program and its results to inform other property and business owners of their responsibilities to maintain their property using available strategies to prevent and deter crime.

USER:

Police Legal Bureau

OFFICER FRIENDLY

DESCRIPTION:

The Officer Friendly program has been active in the Village of Palmetto Bay for over seven years. The program is currently offered at Howard Drive Elementary, Coral Reef Elementary, Perrine Elementary, and several of the private schools in Palmetto Bay. The program is taught by officers assigned to the Community Outreach Unit. The officers go to each grade level, pre-kindergarten through fifth grade, three times during the school year. Topics include; stranger danger, bullying, internet safety, and conflict resolution.

EVALUATION:

For the 2014-2015 school year, over 2,500 students were instructed on the above topics. Funding for this program came from the Village of Palmetto Bay and a grant from the Department of Justice.

USER:

Village of Palmetto Bay

“OPERATION LOOKOUT”

DESCRIPTION:

“Operation Lookout” is a proactive community outreach program that has been active in the Village of Palmetto Bay for over three years. The program educates the public on how to report suspicious activities. This program is a cornerstone of the National Neighborhood Watch, which has been in existence for over three decades. The program is part of the National Sheriffs’ Association, under a cooperative agreement awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, and Department of Justice, instructs businesses and the community to report crime to improve community safety. Every resident in the Village received a laminated “Operation Lookout” card that provided them with information and crime reporting tips. In addition, confidential commercial and residential security surveys were offered to the community.

EVALUATION:

The program continues to be a success and is presented at crime watch, homeowner’s association, and business meetings. A total of four residential security and one commercial security surveys were conducted during the year. Grant funding for this program came from the Village of Palmetto Bay and the Department of Justice.

USER:

Village of Palmetto Bay

PALMETTO BAY POLICING UNIT/COMMUNITY OUTREACH

DESCRIPTION:

This program has been in place in the Village of Palmetto Bay for over seven years. Officers assigned to this unit are responsible for conducting several outreach programs in the community, and in area schools. The program includes Resisting Aggression Defensively (rad/KIDS), Officer Friendly, CCW, Youth Crime Watch (YCW), E-CIP, and "Operation Lookout."

EVALUATION:

The success of the programs that are offered to the residents of Palmetto Bay and to the students at the schools is evident. The Unit has continued to spearhead a proactive approach to Community Oriented Policing within the Village, which has provided a positive feedback from community.

USER:

Village of Palmetto Bay

POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE

DESCRIPTION:

The Police Athletic League (PAL) is a national organization offering youth an opportunity to positively interact with police officers. Miami-Dade PAL is committed to reducing juvenile delinquency by supporting a comprehensive program of prevention, early identification, and intervention. PAL programs provide a wholesome environment with structured recreational and educational activities, positive peer influence, and constructive interaction with police. The goal of the PAL program is to provide an environment that fosters development and a positive attitude in its participants, ultimately making them productive, law-abiding members of the community.

Currently, Miami-Dade PAL is operating as an afterschool initiative, providing tutoring, athletic programs, and recreational projects. Over the summer, PAL partners with Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (MDPROS). This partnership allows officers to maintain positive working relationships with children through summer break.

EVALUATION:

In 2015, approximately 10,000 children were impacted by police sponsored activities offered by PAL. In addition to promoting self-esteem and good citizenship, the effectiveness of the PAL program can be seen in the positive attitudes displayed by participating children.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinates this program with participation from Northside and South Districts

POLICE EXPLORER PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The MDPD Police Explorer Program was established in 1981 for the dual purpose of introducing youth ages 14 through 18 to law enforcement and in turn involving them with members of the MDPD. The program provides training and guidance to police explorers and helps to mold them into good citizens. Program activities are designed to build character, promote fitness, and provide citizenship training for the youth of America. The districts' explorer advisors recruit from local middle and high schools in their areas.

The Police Explorer Program emphasizes community spirit through participation and cooperation. The explorers volunteer their time to assist the elderly and disadvantaged in MDC by conducting graffiti paint-outs, cleaning yards, and collecting food and toys for the underprivileged each Thanksgiving and Christmas. Explorers also assist with events such as the Police Memorial Ceremony, March of Dimes Walk, Special Olympics Torch Run, American Cancer Society, and the Martin Luther King Parade. These events stress community service, promote character development, and good citizenship.

EVALUATION:

The MDPD Police Explorer Program presently consists of more than 160 explorers. Currently, there are eight active explorer posts within the Department. More than 90 percent of its participants continue on to college and more than 15 percent have become members of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

Some of the 2014 community events that the Explorer Posts participated in were:

- Career Days, Ceremonies, and Vigils
- Charity Fundraising Events, Walks, and Runs
- Community Spirit Days
- Health and Safety Fairs, Open House Events, Festivals, and Parades
- Holiday Events, Giveaways, and Toy Drives
- Learning for Life Fun Days provided for more than 1,500 MDC students

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinates this program with cooperation from police districts

POLICE RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Police Reserve Officer Program (PROP) was designed to enable interested certified police officer volunteers to work side-by-side with a full-time police officer. The program's theme is, "Law enforcement is the responsibility of every citizen." The goal of the PROP is to provide an additional cadre of trained uniform personnel employing full police power to further the efforts of MDPD during routine and emergency operations. They are required to work a minimum of 16-hours per month and partake in any training required by the Department.

EVALUATION:

The PROP continues to be an asset to the Department. The PROP provides increased staffing in patrol functions and specialized units. They also provide assistance during hurricane and storm-related details. Historically, many retired officers join the PROP.

USER:

PMB coordinates this program

rad/KIDS (RESISTING AGGRESSION DEFENSIVELY)

DESCRIPTION:

The rad/KIDS Personal Empowerment Safety Education program has been active in the Village of Palmetto Bay for over five years. The program is currently offered at Howard Drive Elementary, Coral Reef Elementary, Perrine Elementary, and the Village of Palmetto Bay Summer Camp. The rad/KIDS program is a 10-hour program that is taught to students between the ages of 5 and 12.

The classes consist of a total of 4-hours of lecture, where several safety topics are discussed, to include; strangers, bullying, bike safety, home safety, water safety, gun safety, and good touch/bad touch, to name a few. The remainder of the class consists of a physical portion where the students are shown several different techniques they could use if confronted by a stranger or bully who wants to harm them. The students are taught several techniques which include, doing a hammer fist to the nose or private parts of a would-be abductor; use of high and low elbow strikes; and how to kick the abductor in the shin and/or private parts. The students are also taught that while doing these techniques they need to, “Yell loud, hit hard, and run fast.” The students then participate in a graduation exercise where they actually use the techniques they have learned to get away from an “abductor” who is a rad/KIDS Instructor. Both instructor and students wear full protective equipment, as this portion of rad/KIDS is very physical.

EVALUATION:

For the 2014-2015 school year/summer camp, over 100 students graduated from the rad/KIDS program. Grant funding for this program comes from the Village of Palmetto Bay, a grant from the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, and a grant from the Department of Justice.

USER:

Village of Palmetto Bay

ROBBERY INTERVENTION DETAIL

DESCRIPTION:

The Robbery Intervention Detail (RID) is a comprehensive robbery suppression initiative that primarily utilizes analytically driven enforcement techniques to schedule operations and deploy personnel.

During their daily deployment, the RID is responsible for the following duties:

- Conduct pro-active, analytically-driven enforcement operations, within specified areas, in an effort to minimize robberies within unincorporated Miami-Dade County.
- Assist Investigative Services entities in apprehending wanted individuals throughout Miami-Dade County.
- Identify individuals and locations that warrant special enforcement attention.
- Locating and apprehending known robbery offenders.
- Tracking cases from the arrest, through the prosecution phase, ensuring offenders are prosecuted to the fullest extent.

The RID continues to concentrate on apprehending individuals or groups known to commit robberies. Additionally, the RID provides high-visibility patrol in areas where robberies are known to occur.

The RID provides coverage, seven days a week, utilizing variable day and afternoon shifts, while responding to robbery trends and/or requests.

EVALUATION:

The RID continues to be an effective resource for the Department. During 2015, RID detectives made 902 arrests, 203 apprehensions, and seized 51 firearms. Recoveries included \$51,642 in stolen property, and 164 stolen vehicles.

Overall, the focused goals of the RID to incarcerate violent offenders, reduce the robbery rate, and return stolen property continue to meet the needs of the community.

USER:

Robbery Bureau

SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The School Crossing Guard (SCG) Program was instituted to play an important role in assisting children to cross streets safely at designated crosswalks in unincorporated MDC; Cities of Doral, South Miami, and Village of Palmetto Bay; and the Town of Cutler Bay. Currently, 116 schools are staffed with approximately 525 guards. These guards provide an invaluable service to our communities. They spend countless hours assisting our children to cross busy intersections as they arrive and depart from school.

EVALUATION:

The program is well received by the public and school administration. The SCGs continue to attend re-certification courses to comply with state standards.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

SECURITY SURVEY PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Security Survey Program (SSP) was instituted to provide citizens with information on how to better secure their homes and businesses, thus reducing the potential of becoming burglary targets.

Security surveys are performed by certified police officers, who have attended at least 120 hours of training through the Office of the Attorney General. The survey consists of an on-site examination of the structure and surrounding property. The purpose is to identify possible concerns and provide recommendations to minimize criminal opportunity.

EVALUATION:

The SSP helps educate citizens on crime prevention techniques and fosters better police and community relations. The proactive program encourages people to maximize the protection of their property by considering and implementing recommended measures for better security.

During 2015, 554 residential contacts and 31 security surveys were conducted. Additionally, the MDPD responded to a request from MDPROS, and partnered with them to complete security surveys at various County parks. Three were completed.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau, Town of Cutler Bay, and Village of Palmetto Bay

SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Shop With A Cop Program was implemented to provide holiday gifts for children of low income families. MDPD partners with Target and Walmart retailers to foster positive relationships in the community and make the holidays a little brighter for underprivileged children.

The young participants are selected by teachers, clergy members, and community leaders who have personal knowledge of their family's economic situation. Each child receives a gift card generously donated by Walmart or Target retailers. Next, families are paired up with police officers to begin the "Shop With A Cop" experience. As children select their toys and gifts, officers tally up the items and assist with checkout procedures. The children are overwhelmed with excitement and the families are most grateful for this outpouring of generosity.

EVALUATION:

The program is well-received by the community. It develops positive relationships between children, their families, and MDPD officers. The retailers are happy for the publicity they receive, and welcome the opportunity to assist MDPD in "giving back" to the community.

USER:

West, Intracoastal, Kendall, Northside, Midwest, and South Districts

SPECIAL VICTIMS BUREAU CLEARINGHOUSE

DESCRIPTION:

The Special Victims Bureau Clearinghouse (SVBCH) provides law enforcement agencies with the intelligence data necessary to identify serial trends and sexual crime offenders. Additionally, it captures domestic statistical data and is in partnership with other agencies to develop a protocol for disseminating domestic cases. It is staffed with one Intelligence Analyst Supervisor, two Intelligence Analysts, and four Police Crime Analysis Specialist 1, supervised by the Special Victim Bureau, Operations and Support Section Lieutenant.

The SVBCH analysts utilize computerized databases to track reported offenses and assist investigators in the identification of pattern activity, offender location, and repeat offenders. The SVBCH incorporates information from other regional law enforcement agencies into a database, increasing the probability of linking offenders to multiple acts, as well as identifying transient or multi-jurisdictional offenders. Additionally, the SVBCH is responsible for researching numerous databases to locate subjects, victims, and witnesses in Cold Case investigations.

EVALUATION:

During the 2015 calendar year, 9,498 investigative cases were received from MDPD districts and various municipalities. Of the cases investigated, 1,935 involved sexual crimes investigations, and 3,896 were domestic-related investigations. The remaining 3,667 were other incidents; such as information reports, exposures to adult victims, burglaries, thefts, Baker Acts, suspicious persons, etc.

This multi-agency participation has cultivated a cooperative network within the South Florida area. In a time where the “neighboring town” has become just another component of a major metropolitan city, and residents continually cross traditional jurisdictional boundaries, a greater commitment and vision is necessary to truly serve a community. With the growth of regional communities comes the growth of transient crime and the multi-jurisdictional offender. Multi-agency programs and partnerships are instrumental to addressing criminal and quality of life concerns. Over the years, the SVBCH has proven to be an effective investigative tool for identifying sexual offenders and domestic violence perpetrators. The SVBCH strives to carry out the mission originally set forth by MDC and the MDPD in their commitment to serve all the citizens of South Florida.

USER:

Special Victims Bureau

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS SQUAD

DESCRIPTION:

The Intracoastal District's Special Investigations Squad (SIS) was established in order to provide immediate investigative information to the units on road patrol, as well as, Intracoastal District's neighboring jurisdictions and districts, regarding crimes that have occurred within the ID.

EVALUATION:

SIS provides the General Investigations Unit (GIU) investigators a platform to expand on continued long-term, complex investigations which may require both, internal and/or external resources, in order to eradicate criminal enterprise cells that prey on the residents of the Intracoastal District. In addition, SIS is the ID's liaison with various federal agencies.

USER:

Intracoastal District

SPORTS DAY

DESCRIPTION:

Sports Day is intended to celebrate our youth, their achievements, and commitment to make a difference in our community. Consequently, eighty local sixth grade students from the district's four public middle schools participate in various sporting activities and games in an effort to promote teamwork, health and wellness. The students are selected by their school's administration based on academic, personal, and behavioral achievements. The goal is to continue to improve upon the relationships between law enforcement and the community's youth.

EVALUATION:

The program has been well received by school administrators, participating students, and local community leaders.

USER:

Midwest District

SPRING BREAK ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

DESCRIPTION:

Spring Break Enforcement Detail is designated to address criminal activity, specifically, occupied residential burglaries where school age children may be at home during spring break. Additionally, the operation focuses on areas where children frequent, such as shopping malls and parks. A combination of specialized units including NRU, GIU and uniform officers are utilized for surveillance, high-visibility patrols throughout the residential neighborhoods, apartment buildings, shopping malls and parks. The visual presence of the marked police vehicles creates a deterrent to crime, while the unmarked vehicles with non-uniformed personnel conduct covert activities. Furthermore, the detail creates the opportunity for positive interactions between the Department and the community's youth. The detail runs for the length of the Miami-Dade County Public School (MDCPS's) spring break.

EVALUATION:

The high-visibility patrol and plain clothes covert operation greatly enhances the safety and well-being of local residents, specifically the youth.

USER:

Midwest District

STATIC DISPLAY HELICOPTER

DESCRIPTION:

The Static Display Helicopter (SDH) is a non-airworthy Bell 206L Jet Long Ranger III that was donated to the Department for the purpose of creating a mobile display helicopter. Crew chiefs at the MDPD and Opa-locka Airport Aviation Unit completed a difficult and creative restoration of the helicopter using un-airworthy parts donated by various aircraft manufacturers from throughout the United States. This display allows citizens to sit in the pilot's seat and become familiar with the police pilot's perspective.

Named "Choppy," the SDH, is mounted to a trailer and is displayed at schools, parades, malls, and civic events. When on location, the helicopter is able to facilitate the delivery of any crime prevention program, along with raising public knowledge, and appreciation of police aviation.

EVALUATION:

The SDH is a unique and highly visible law enforcement public relations tool, which has been very cost effective. It not only reduces the cost and liability of having to send operational helicopters to civic events (the helicopter is one of the most requested pieces of police equipment), but it also keeps operational helicopters available to fulfill their duties.

To date, "Choppy" is one-of-a-kind and was showcased at 10 events in 2015. The Department has received very positive local and national attention for its cost-saving, innovative approach to bringing positive police messages to the public.

***NOTE:** The SDH was out-of-service for the majority of 2015 for refurbishing. It was put back into service on December 1, 2015.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

STRANGER DANGER/ANTI-DRUG/GUN SAFETY PRESENTATIONS

DESCRIPTION:

The Stranger Danger presentation teaches young children how to handle a situation if they are approached by a stranger and safety steps to avoid dangerous confrontations. The presentation also includes a video program, a question and answer session, and distribution of Stranger Danger coloring books.

The Anti-Drug presentation is an hour-long program geared mainly towards fifth graders. This age group is crucial (before entering middle school) because young people are most vulnerable to peer pressure.

Program administrators discuss drugs and the effects they have on the human body, the importance of proper decision making, the negative consequences of peer pressure, and questions and answers. A display case with simulated drug samples is utilized as a visual aid.

The Gun Safety presentation is an hour-long program that discusses securing firearms from children, safe storage of firearms at home, carrying weapons safely, and dangers accompanying the ownership of firearms.

EVALUATION:

All three programs are successful as they educate children in each topic. The program has always been well received.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinate this program with participation from district stations

STREET TERROR OFFENDER PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Street Terror Offender Program (STOP) is currently staffed by members of the Department's Robbery Bureau, and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The program targets individuals involved in the illicit drug industry who have demonstrated a propensity for committing violent crimes, are current criminally active, have past convictions for violent crimes and are in possession of firearms.

Through program activity, some of the most active and violent criminals in MDC are incarcerated. Prosecution under federal firearm statutes provides for enhanced sentencing without the possibility of parole or early release, which segregates the offender from society for a greater period of time.

Traditional, as well as non-traditional, enforcement approaches are employed with the ultimate goal of bringing federal firearm charges against the offenders. STOP provides the capability of conducting long-term proactive investigations into a criminal element that largely operates with impunity because their victims are unwilling or afraid to cooperate with law enforcement.

EVALUATION:

During calendar year 2015, the STOP/FIRE Gun Task Force detectives arrested 78 individuals and seized 153 firearms. Additionally, they seized 34,046 grams of cocaine and \$628,267.00 in U.S. currency.

STOP continues to address the community's needs by providing a concentrated multi-agency approach to dealing with violent crimes.

USER:

Robbery Bureau

STUDENTS TOGETHER AGAINST NEGATIVE DECISIONS
(Miami-Dade County Youth Awareness Program)

DESCRIPTION:

The STAND program formerly known as the “Don’t Let Alcohol Be Your Last Taste Of Life” program, is nationally recognized and was originally instituted as a possible long-term solution to the growing teen alcohol and drunk driving problem in MDC. It is a cooperative effort between MDPD and MDCPS.

Over the past ten years, the program has expanded its presentations and covers topics that are current trend hazards to the youth in MDC. The general message is that there are consequences associated with negative decisions. For example, presentations on drinking and driving, texting and driving, bullying, peer pressure, sexting, gangs, internet safety, drug abuse, and human trafficking, are all completed throughout the year in MDC high schools. Additionally, STAND clubs put on events at their schools, such as mock crashes, ghost outs, and seatbelt checks.

In 2013, the Driver Simulator was added to further provide a realistic experience of the dangers of impaired driving or texting and driving. Other activities consist of the Youth Summit, Youth Fair Projects, and the Poster Contest. Students eventually understand the dangers and consequences of destructive decisions.

EVALUATION:

The program is currently in 27 high schools throughout MDC and taught by four officers. The program is supported by teachers, school administrators, and community leaders. It provides students with the information they need to make the right choices and impacts approximately 17,000 students each year.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau coordinates this program with participation from West, Kendall, Midwest, and Northwest Districts

SUMMER ENFORCEMENT DETAIL

DESCRIPTION:

Summer Enforcement Detail is designated to address criminal activity, specifically occupied residential burglaries where school age children may be at home during the summer break. Additionally, the operation focuses on areas where children frequent, such as shopping malls and parks. A combination of specialized units including NRU, GIU and uniform officers are utilized for surveillance, high-visibility patrols throughout the residential neighborhoods, apartment buildings, shopping malls and parks. The visual presence of the marked police vehicles creates a deterrent to crime, while the unmarked vehicles with non-uniformed personnel conduct covert activities. Furthermore, the detail creates the opportunity for positive interactions between the Department and the community's youth. The detail runs for the length of the MDCPS's summer break.

EVALUATION:

The high-visibility patrols and plain clothes covert operations greatly enhance the safety and well-being of local residents, specifically the youth.

USER:

Midwest District

SUMMER YOUTH EXPERIENCE CAMP

DESCRIPTION:

This program is designed to provide a safe environment for underprivileged children, within the Northside District, by providing a week of activities that enriches their overall learning and growth. Throughout the week of spring break, as well as during the summer, the officers attend departmentally-approved field trips with the youth.

EVALUATION:

The ND observed behavior improvement in all participates. Several parents have reported better relationships with family members and teachers as well as academic improvements.

USER:

Northside District

THANKSGIVING FOOD AND TURKEY DRIVE

DESCRIPTION:

Each district participates in the Thanksgiving Food and Turkey Drive program by partnering with local community organizations and vendors to provide holiday food items to needy, low income families. Program administration is different according to geographic area; however, the mission of making the Thanksgiving holiday meaningful and bright for the underprivileged is unanimous. Some districts involve volunteer children of all grade levels to collect, wrap, and distribute bags of food and turkeys to needy families and elderly citizens. Others hold events to raise funds and collect canned goods. District Explorer Posts also assist with the collection and distribution of holiday baskets and parcels. More than 2,500 needy families throughout MDC are given holiday food baskets each year.

EVALUATION:

Through the cooperative efforts of community partners and law enforcement, the program is successful in accomplishing its goal of enhancing the Thanksgiving holidays and providing nourishment to needy members of the community. It also provides children and volunteers the opportunity to assist the elderly and underprivileged residents, and understand the importance of community service.

USER:

District Stations, Towns of Cutler Bay, and Miami Lakes

TRAFFIC SAFETY EDUCATION PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Traffic Safety Education Program was instituted to provide education presentations and instruction for citizen groups concerning various aspects of pedestrian, traffic, bicycle, bullying, and substance abuse. Currently, there are presentations covering the above topics for pre-kindergarten children through senior citizens. Materials used are continually evaluated and are updated as the need arises.

The Buckle Bear Lap Puppet, Puppet Show, McGruff the Crime Dog, McGruff Cruiser, and Bicycle Rodeo are programs and educational visual aids used by the Educational Unit.

The character educational/self-esteem component entitled "8 Keys to a Better Me," continues to be successfully presented at schools. This presentation is a character development program designed by the MDPD to help build positive traits in our youth, such as honesty, respect, patriotism, kindness, courage, responsibility, feelings and self-worth.

MDPD staff members have completed the Standardized Child Passenger Safety Program offered by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and have participated in various checkpoints throughout MDC. Educational Unit personnel provide a child restraint "Fitting Station" as a designated place where parents or drivers can receive educational assistance with child restraint installation. The Miami-Dade Police Fred Taylor Headquarters Building fitting station is community accessible and operates as a public service.

EVALUATION:

Feedback from schools and involved groups is positive and indicates that the program has been well received by the public. Approximately 228,328 contacts were made during the 2014 fiscal year.

USER:

Public Information & Education Bureau

TRUANCY ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION:

Truancy is a problem that negatively impacts both the truant and the community. Truancy provides opportunities for children and teens to be exposed to and participate in potentially unsafe and unlawful activities. Truancy has often been correlated with higher crime rates in categories such as auto theft, burglary, and graffiti, and has been considered an early indication of delinquent tendencies in children and teens. Additionally, truancy impedes the educational process of the truant.

To reduce this negative activity; the MDPD cooperates with MDCPS in locating and returning truants to schools through a program called Operation Truant. Truants with outstanding warrants are taken into custody.

District officers focus their activities towards locating and apprehending truants by targeting known locations, such as fast food establishments, parks, shopping centers, and apartment complexes.

EVALUATION:

The Truancy Enforcement Program, in cooperation with Operation Truant, has proven to be effective within MDPD districts. The program complements the Department's efforts to reduce juvenile crime. It also reinforces the message that attendance in school is paramount and education is important for the youth of our community.

USER:

District Stations, Towns of Cutler Bay, Miami Lakes, and Village of Palmetto Bay

VIOLENCE REDUCTION TEAM

DESCRIPTION:

The Intracoastal District's Violence Reduction Team (VRT) was established in order to address violent crimes, which occur within certain geographic areas of the District. These regions were identified and highlighted by evaluating Crime Analysis System and Geographic Information System Reports. Through the examination of this data, two areas of concern were identified. The Biscayne Gardens region and the Soar Park/Larchmont Park/Sunset Palm complexes. The VRT utilized well established street crimes suppression and enforcement methods in conjunction with community outreach and neighborhood resourcing approaches.

EVALUATION:

Since the creation and implementation of the VRT, a significant decrease in contact shootings and robberies in targeted areas was observed.

USER:

Intracoastal District

YOUTH CRIME WATCH OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

DESCRIPTION:

The Youth Crime Watch (YCW) program is currently conducted at Coral Reef Elementary School. The Community Outreach Officers meet with the students every Wednesday after school. The students in the YCW have been exposed to almost every aspect of what law enforcement officers do and what Citizens' Crime Watch means to a community. The students are instructed on several areas of police work and then they each have an opportunity to try it themselves. Areas discussed included; traffic enforcement using laser and doppler radar guns, digital photography, crime scene documentation, crime scene photography, locating and processing latent fingerprints, how to conduct a residential security survey and identity theft to name a few.

The students also have the opportunity to take a field trip to Kennedy Space Center. Upon their return to class the following week, the students are asked to complete an essay on what they thought the future of law enforcement/crime prevention would be like.

EVALUATION:

The YCW program continues to be a great success and the club is always filled to capacity. The students are always eager to learn about crime prevention, law enforcement and what police officers do on a daily basis.

USER:

Village of Palmetto Bay

YOUTH SAFETY INITIATIVE

DESCRIPTION:

The Intracoastal District (ID) Neighborhood Resource Unit (NRU) has been tasked with addressing youth safety within the District. ID NRU personnel follow recommendations made by the Joint Round Table on Youth Safety which consists of community stakeholders, law enforcement, community and faith-based organizations.

EVALUATION:

This initiative is conducted year round and is focused on the safety of our youth around schools, parks and major community events. The ID conducted curfew sweeps, truancy sweeps, and focused additional efforts around early release dates, recess days, and other significant in-school events where the potential for violence may be prevalent. This initiative has been safeguarding citizens within the ID.

USER:

Intracoastal District

2015 INDEX TO ACRONYMS USED

CAC	Citizens' Advisory Committee
CCW	Citizens' Crime Watch
COPPS	Community-Oriented Policing, Practicing & Strategies
COS	Community Outreach Section
CPA	Citizen's Police Academy
CPDV	Crime Prevent Display Vehicle
CSS	Community Service Squad
CVP	Citizens' Volunteer Program
D.A.R.E.	Drug Abuse Resistance Education
DUI	Driving Under the Influence
E-CIP	Emergency Commercial Identification Program
FIU	Florida International University
GIU	General Investigations Unit
HSVTF	Homicide Street Violence Task Force
ID	Intracoastal District
INT	ID's Narcotics Team
JRYS	Joint Roundtable on Youth Safety
MDAD	Miami-Dade Aviation Department
MDC	Miami-Dade County
MDCPS	Miami-Dade County Public School
MDPD	Miami-Dade Police Department
MDPROS	Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces
MIA	Miami International Airport
MIC	Miami Intermodal Center
NAB	Nuisance Abatement Board
NAP	Nuisance Abatement Program
NAU	Nuisance Abatement Unit
NRU	Neighborhood Resource Unit
PAL	Police Athletic League
PMB	Personnel Management Bureau
PROP	Police Reserve Officer Program
rad/KIDS	Resisting Aggression Defensively
RID	Robbery Intervention Detail
SCG	School Crossing Guard
SDH	Static Display Helicopter
SIDA	Security Identification Display Area
SIS	Special Investigations Squad
SSP	Security Survey Program
STAND	Students Together Against Negative Decisions
STOP	Street Terror Offender Program
SVBCH	Special Victims Bureau Clearinghouse
The Board	Nuisance Abatement Board
UM	University of Miami
VRT	Violence Reduction Team
YCW	Youth Crime Watch

DISTRICT STATIONS

Airport Station

District 7

4200 NW 21 Street, Bldg. 3033
Miami, FL 33159
Phone: (305) 876-7373

Intracoastal Station

District 6

15665 Biscayne Boulevard
North Miami, FL 33160
Phone: (305) 940-9980

Midwest Station

District 3

9101 NW 25 Street
Doral, FL 33172
Phone: (305) 471-2800

South District Station

District 4

10800 SW 211 Street
Miami, FL 33189
Phone: (305) 378-4300

Kendall Station

District 5

7707 SW 117 Avenue
Miami, FL 33173
Phone: (305) 279-6929

Northside Station

District 2

799 NW 81 Street
Miami, FL 33150
Phone: (305) 836-8601

West Station

District 8

10000 SW 142 Avenue
Miami, FL 33186
Phone: (305) 383-6800

Northwest Station

District 1

5975 Miami Lakes Drive East
Miami, FL 33014
Phone: (305) 698-1500

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